

IPW



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of  
Masaki Umayabashi, et al.

Serial No.: 10/617.353

Group Art Unit: 2171

Filing Date: July 11, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

For: **FRAME TRANSFER METHOD AND NODE IN NETWORK, AND  
FRAME TRANSFER PROGRAM**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents cited in the Japanese Office Action and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made, the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

10/617.353

Docket No.: MA-580-US

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted.



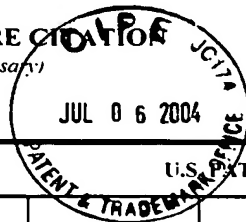
Sean M. McGinn

Registration No. 34.386

Date: 7/6/04  
McGinn & Gibb, PLLC  
Intellectual Property Law  
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200  
Vienna, VA 22182-3817  
(703) 761-4100  
Customer No. 21254

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

41 24



Docket Number (Optional)

MA-580-US

Application Number

10/617,353

Applicant(s)

Masaki Umayabashi, et al.

Filing Date

July 11, 2003

Group Art Unit

2171

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		2002-164937	06/07/2002	Japan			ABS	
		2001-156800	06/08/2001	Japan			ABS	
		2001-251351	09/14/2001	Japan			ABS	
		2001-320420	11/16/2001	Japan			ABS	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Japanese Office Action dated April 21, 2004 with Partial English Translation.
		Yoshinobu Kato, "Device VLAN Flexibility and Network Reliability", Nikkei Communications, No. 377, November 4, 2002, pp. 88-97.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.